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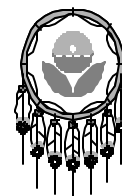
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L E T T E R

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



Vol. XI No. V

May 1, 2002

Work Shops and Conferences

May 15-17, Pesticide Conference, San Diego, CA. For information see below **

May 23, Storm Water Permit Compliance Training for Region 10 Tribes, Pendleton, OR. See***

June 3-7, The Sixth National Tribal Environmental Conference, Sparks, NV. See first article.

June 4-5-7, Water Quality Workshops for Tribal Environmental Managers, Worley, ID. For information contact Lillian Wilmore at 617/232-5742 or NAEcology@aol.com.

June 25-28, National Community Involvement Conference, Portland, OR. For information contact: Helen DuTeau, 703/603-8761 or duteau.helen@epa.gov

*Region 10 Tribal
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To receive a copy call:

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4372 ext. 4011

Tribal Environmental Management Conference

The Sixth National Tribal Environmental Management Conference will be co-sponsored by the Pyramid Lake Paiute tribe, June 3-7, 2002, at the Nugget Casino and Hotel, 1100 Nugget Avenue, Sparks, Nevada 89431. The Environmental Protection Agency is pleased to co-sponsor this important event. Since 1992, this bi-annual conference has provided a forum for tribes to develop environmental capacity, share and discuss environmental issues affecting their communities, and find solutions to environmental problems in Indian

Country. To broaden and strengthen the multi-media focus for the conference, other Federal agencies and Tribal organizations are invited and encouraged to hold their own independently-sponsored meetings around this conference.

Please Note!! After May 15, registration fees increase by \$25.

For more information call EPA contacts Felicia Wright, 202/260-4410; Tonya Hawkins 703/308-8278; Caren Rothstein-Robinson, 202/260-0065; Claudia Walters, 202/564-6762; and Clara Mickles, 202/260-7519.

*****Compliance Training**

EPA Region 10 and the International Erosion Control Association announce the latest **free** training for Tribal Water Quality and Planning staff in the Pacific Northwest.

This one-day course will give you the tools you need to understand the new regulations affecting new construction disturbing 1+ acres.

Call 800/445-4322 to register by phone or
<http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/tribal>

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0Water%20Training.PDF**

Cultural Practices Risks

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Research and Development and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry are seeking applications for research on lifestyle and cultural practices of Tribal populations and risks from toxic substances in the environment. Tribal populations may be at especially high risk for environmentally-caused diseases and health outcomes as a result of their subsistence lifestyles, occupations and customs, and/or environmental releases impacting tribal lands. This solicitation invites applications in two areas of current interest, the development of: 1) exposure and effects assessment methods that can be broadly applied across geographic regions and Tribal populations and 2) risk management strategies and

options that will lead to reduction in risk from exposure.

Open Date: 01/29/2002

Closing Date: 07/10/2002

For info: http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/02trib_risk.html or contact Roseanne Lorenzana, 206/553-8002, or lorenzana.roseanne@epa.gov

Youth Practicum

Dates: July 20-30, 2002.

Description: The Practicum is designed to provide Native American students an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the management of natural resources. One of the goals of the Society is to encourage Native American youth to see the importance of professional natural resource management, to continue their education in order to seek degrees in natural resource management, and, ultimately, to pursue careers in the natural resource fields.

During the program, students will spend their time at the Mt. Evans Outdoor Education Lab, Evergreen Colorado, School of the Jefferson County School District participating in classroom sessions, field education, recreational activities, field trips, traditional methods, and, most important, interaction with professional, cultural and spiritual people. The Youth Practicum is open to incoming 10-12th grade Native students who are interested in preservation, protection, and physical activities.

For more information and/or an application, please write or call: Sally Carufel-Williams, Youth Practicum Coordinator Native American Fish & Wildlife Society 750 Burbank Street, Broomfield,

CO 80020, Phone: 303/466-1725. Applications must be postmarked and mailed by **May 10, 2002**

Indian Air Rules

On March 15, 2002, EPA published in the Federal Register proposed air quality rules for 39 reservations in Idaho, Oregon and Washington under the Federal Clean Air Act. EPA is holding a 90 day public comment period, from March 15 to June 13, 2002, before issuing the final rules. These rules would provide air quality protection for people within reservation boundaries, and would control emissions from sources within reservations in a manner similar to the way in which sources located outside the reservations are controlled. EPA developed the proposed rules in close partnership with Region 10 Tribes through an extensive consultation process.

What's in the Proposed Rules? These rules would create a framework for air quality protection on these reservations. They include a program for identifying air pollution sources, procedures to follow during air pollution emergencies, rules for open burning, and some emission limitations for industrial sources. The industrial source rules would regulate particulates, sulfur dioxide, and fugitive emissions. These rules would be implemented by EPA. In the future, Tribes could assist EPA to administer these rules on their reservations.

What Are the Benefits of the Proposed Rules? The proposed rules will protect human health and air quality for people on or adjacent to Indian reservations in

the Pacific Northwest. The proposed rules will clarify that EPA or a Tribe is the appropriate regulatory authority on Indian reservations. The rules will also enable Tribes to partner with EPA to implement these rules on their reservations and build their capacity to conduct similar efforts in the future.

For copies of proposal: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=2002_register&docid=02-4140-filed.pdf or call GR Malekpour, Office of Air Quality, at (206) 553 0977. If you have questions on this proposal, please call Regina Thompson at 206/553-1498 or e-mail thompson.regina@epa.gov

Written public comments must be received by E-Mail or regular mail no later than June 13, 2002. Please submit your comments to: David Bray, Office of Air Quality (OAQ-107), U.S. EPA Region 10, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101-1128 or via E-Mail to: bray.david@epa.gov.

Tribal Funding

EPA Region 10 is soliciting project proposals from Tribes to support Drinking Water Protection/Capacity Development activities. A total of \$167,000 is available from EPA Region 10 this fiscal year to fund three or four Tribal projects. Pre-application proposals must be received by April 30, 2002. For more information: Jennifer Parker, EPA Region 10, 1200 6th Avenue (OW-137), Seattle, WA 98101. Or 206/553-1900, parker.jennifer@epa.gov

Reviews of Grants

EPA is conducting desk and on-site reviews of the financial management and internal control systems of Federal Assistance Agreement recipients to help them more effectively manage their Agency grants and cooperative agreements. These reviews are not intended to be audits, but should improve the outcome of any audits conducted in the future. To date, nationally, these reviews have identified several common areas for improvement:

1. **Supporting Documentation:**

Recipients need to document and maintain sufficient information on assistance agreement implementation. For example, travel authorizations funded through the EPA assistance agreement need to provide sufficient justification for the travel and must be signed by the approving official; time sheets need to reflect actual hours worked and delineate the hours worked on federal and non-federal projects.

2. **Tracking of Multiple Grants and/or Sources of Funding:**

Recipients with multiple assistance agreements and/or sources of funding need to have accounting systems that produce financial records that delineate the various funding sources, whether federal or non-federal.

3. **Written Policies and Procedures:**

Recipients need to have written policies and procedures for procurement, travel, training, payroll, and time and attendance funded in part or in total by the assistance agreement.

4. **Internal Controls:**

Recipients need to have internal policies and procedures that involve checks and balances. For

example, there should be a segregation of the various duties related to the assistance agreement (in effect, the approval official is not the same person as the accounts payable official, etc.).

By following these suggestions, recipients of federal assistance agreements can help to ensure that any audit of their grant or cooperative agreement will have a good outcome.

Mining Summit

North American Indigenous Mining Summit will take place June 12 - 15, 2002 at Mole Lake, Wisconsin. The North American Indigenous Mining summit is co-sponsored by the Sokaogon Chippewa Community, The Indigenous Mining Campaign Project, a partnership between the Indigenous environmental Network and Project Underground.

Objective of the Summit: To develop strategies to empower the Indigenous Communities to form and create perpetual alliances and networks with each other and allies.

Solid Waste Training

West Virginia University has developed three comprehensive training packages for those working in the solid waste field. These courses address the training needs of solid waste and recycling professionals working with small communities or Tribes. The three packages are: Reducing Commercial & Industrial solid Waste; Economics & Marketing of Recyclables; and Managing Groups & Conflict for Solid Waste Officials. Each package contains a trainer's guide, participant's

manual, and master transparency copies. For more information or to order, and contact Craig Mains at NETCSC 800/624-8301.

R10 Technical Training

Tuition is free. Travel, lodging, and per diem are the responsibility of the attendee. Website for class description, agenda, and registration form: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/omp.nsf/webpage/Scientific+&+Technical+Training+Opportunities?OpenDocument>

Materials Incident Response

Operations (ERTP) May 13-17, 2002 at Anchorage, AK;

Sampling for Hazardous

Materials (ERTP) June 10 - 13, 2002 at JRETC, Fort Richardson, AK;

Air Monitoring for

Hazardous Materials (ERTP)

June 10-14, 2002 at Kent Fire Training Center, 24523 116 Ave. S.E., Kent, WA;

Chemistry for Environmental

Professionals--Fundamentals

(ERTP) September 10-11, 2002 at Kent Fire Station 73, 26512

Military Rd. S, Kent, WA;

Chemistry for Environmental

Professionals--Applied (ERTP)

September 12-13, 2002 at Kent Fire Station 73, 26512 Military Rd. S, Kent, WA;

Hazardous

Materials Incident Response

Operations (ERTP) September 23-27, 2002 at Idaho Department of Corrections, Orfino, ID.

Drinking Water Protection

Last fall EPA Region 10 office of water started a new program to support efforts to protecting drinking water supplies on tribal lands. Evergreen Rural water of Washington carries out the program in order to protect the

health of Native American communities.

Evergreen Rural Water has over 8 years of experience helping tribes and other rural communities to provide safe drinking water. A facilitator is supplied to make sure that local goals are set based on the unique needs of each community. The facilitator can assist in susceptibility assessments; grant applications, public education campaigns, drafting regulations, and emergency planning.

For more information call one of the following: Evergreen Rural Water of Washington, Oregon Association of Water Utilities or the Idaho Rural Water Association. Idaho Area Tribes, call 800/962-3257; Oregon Area Tribes, 503/873-8353; Washington Area Tribes 800/272-5981.

Protect Public Beaches

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has made \$10 million available in grants to eligible states, territories, and local governments to protect the public health of the nation's beaches. The funds are targeted to improve monitoring the quality of water at beaches and notifying the public of beach warnings or closings. For more information: <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/beaches/grants>

Wetlands Protection

The Army Corps issued a press statement noting that they have three principle modifications to protecting the environment. They are 1. no net loss of wetlands. 2. heightened protections for streams, and 3. increased environmental

protection under mining-related permits.

The new Nationwide Permits and associated general conditions became effective March 18 and remain in effect for 5 years. For details: <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-WATER/2002/January/Day-15/w539.htm>.

For additional information call: David Olson 703-428-7570, Kirk Stark 202/761-4664 or Rich White 202/761-4599.

Arsenic Rule Implementation

EPA plans to conduct a demonstration program on the treatment of arsenic in drinking water that will identify and evaluate the ability of commercially available technologies to cost-effectively meet the new standard in small water systems (10,000 customers). EPA is seeking small water utilities that may be interested in hosting a demonstration at their facility. For more information: <http://www.epa.gov/ORD/NRMRL/arsenic>

HUD for Brownfields

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will make \$26 million in grant funds available this year under its Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI). These funds will assist public entities in the redevelopment of brownfields. For more: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa/staforms.cfm>

Grants for Habitat Restoration

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is soliciting proposals for

funding to implement innovative habitat restoration projects on the national and regional level that will benefit living marine resources. NOAA invites multi-year partnerships of up to 3 years and can contribute up to \$1.5 million per project in FY 2002. For information: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/community/index.html>

Water Systems Deadline

EPA has released a direct final rule establishing August 9, 2002, as a new, later date by which water systems serving more than 10,000 persons must report all contaminant monitoring results they receive before May 13, 2002. The rule affects community and non-transient non-community water systems serving more than 10,000 persons which are required to monitor and report unregulated contaminants under the Unregulated Contaminated Monitoring Regulation (UCMR) monitoring program.

Brownfields Volunteers

The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) is seeking communities to be featured in case studies about brownfields redevelopment and local partnerships. ICMA is looking to collect experiences, best practices, and strategies that will help other communities when planning and implementing brownfields programs and forging partnerships. In addition to facilitating information sharing among local governments, participation in this project will give local government communities and their staff

national recognition for their efforts. If you have questions, e-mail Elizabeth Stasiak at estasiak@icma.org

Water Efficiency

The Alliance to Save Energy (ASE) has published a report on the energy used in water systems. The report outlines ways in which municipalities can save energy and money by using more efficient technologies and practices. The summary can be viewed at: <http://www.ase.org/programs/international/watergsummary.pds>

Audit?

A grant recipient who has expended more than \$300,000 of federal funds in the form of grants and cooperative agreements in their fiscal year are required to hire an auditor and have an audit completed (referred to as an A-133 or single audit). The recipient's audit report goes to a national clearinghouse. If the auditor finds significant issues, the affected federal agencies must conduct audit resolution with the recipient.

The Public Law (P.L.) 106-706 Audit Workgroup has developed a 20-page pamphlet, *Highlights of the Single Audit Process* and the single sheet tri-fold, *Single Audit Basics and Where to Get Help*. They are designed to provide recipients and Federal agency personnel with a basic understanding of the single audit process. The plan is to post the pamphlet on the Census Clearinghouse web site in the near future. Until then, the Department of Labor/Office of Inspector General (DOL/OIG) has posted these documents to their single

audit page at: http://www.oig.dol.Gov/public/programs/oa/single_audit/main.htm. Both documents are downloadable and printable from this website. For information call Janet Kesler at 206/553-1192 or kesler.Janet@epa.gov.

Pesticide Grants

On April 4, 2002, EPA announced the availability of approximately \$497,000 for grants to States and Tribes under the pesticide environmental stewardship Program (PESP). The goal of PESP is to **reduce the risks associated with pesticide use in agricultural and non-agricultural settings** in the United States. To advance this goal, EPA will be awarding grants for research, public education, training, monitoring, demonstrations, and studies that advance pesticide risk reduction. Priority consideration will be given to projects that advance pesticide pollution prevention, integrated pest management (IPM), IPM in schools, children's health issues related to pesticides, and those research methods for documenting IPM adoption for the reduction of risks associated with changes in pesticide use. Local government, private universities, private non-profit entities, private businesses, and individuals are not eligible.

Applications must be received by the appropriate EPA Regional Office by May 27, 2002. EPA will make its award decisions by July 10, 2002. Additional information is available on EPA's website at: www.epa.gov/oppbppd1/PESP/regional_grants.htm. To obtain

specific instructions, Regional criteria, guidance, and format for submitting proposals, interested applicants must contact the appropriate EPA Regional PESP Coordinator.

Region X (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington): Karl Arne, 1200 6th Ave (ECO-084), Seattle, WA 98101 or 206/553-2576.

Tribal Science Council

Consistent with the EPA Indian Policy and trust responsibility, the mission of the Tribal Science Council is to provide for forum interaction between tribal and Agency representatives to work collaboratively on environmental scientific issues. The Council will also address a wide range of scientific issues including research, monitoring, modeling, information technology and training in Indian Country. It will develop a better understanding of the priority science issues of tribes from across the nation and the Agency's ability to address these issues and consider them as part of its formal scientific issues. The relationship between the tribes and EPA in the Tribal Science Council will not substitute for, but rather augment, the government-to-government relationship between EPA and tribal governments. For more information contact Scott Sufficool at 206/553-4011.

AISES

The American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES)' has released a comprehensive set of tools to help Indian tribes develop their own air quality programs. The outreach tool kit was developed by AISES, as part

of its air quality project under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. EPA's Office of Air and Radiation. The kit consists of: 1) a technical manual, "The Clean Air Handbook" and 2) a video, "The Winds of Change". The kit is being sent to all federally recognized Indian tribes and Native American colleges. For information visit the AISES air quality website at: <http://www.aises.org/programs/CAA/Handbook/index.htm>. You may also contact Michelle Baker, the AISES Quality Project Manager at 505/765-1052, Ext. 08.

FEMA

Region X is preparing to send to all tribes a "Request for Application" (RFA) for the Fiscal Year 2002 Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III grant program. The RFA was to be sent by late March with a proposed application period of April 1 to May 30, 2002. For additional information, contact Todd Smith at 415/923-7235.

Alaska

Youth Watershed Summit Contest. Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)

announces student/teacher contest to send four high school students and one teacher to Youth Watershed Summit in Maryland.

ADEC Commissioner Michele Brown has announced a contest for Alaska high school students and teachers to attend a national Youth Watershed Summit this October.

Alaska will send four students and one teacher to the symposium.

Transportation, food, and lodging will be provided by America's Clean

Water Foundation, which is hosting the symposium with the Smithsonian

Environmental Research

Center and the Federal Government. Approximately 200 students and 50 teachers from across the nation will attend a series of educational sessions on watershed protection, tentatively scheduled for

October 6-10, 2002 at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Edgewater, Maryland. The Alaska team will work together on a watershed project to present at the symposium.

The student contest calls for an essay of 350-500 words on sharing information from the watershed symposium with their communities. Teachers may apply or be

nominated by their schools, students, or community members.

The contest is open to any Alaska high school teacher and any Alaska student who will be in 9-12th grade in the fall. Applicants must commit to working on the project, either in person or by e-mail, during the summer and fall if selected.

Applications can be downloaded from http://www.state.ak.us/dec/press/2002/rel_0422a.htm

Applications are due by June 1, 2002. Students and teachers may apply as a team or individually.

ADEC may create a team from students in separate

communities.

Semi-finalists will be selected by a judging committee of one educator, one Alaska Youth for Environmental Action high school senior, two Department of Environmental Conservation employees, and one U.S. Environmental Protection Agency employee. Commissioner Brown will select the winners.

For more information, please contact Charles Fedullo at 907-269-3784 or charles_fedullo@envircon.state.ak.us.

IDAHO

■ Fort Hall. Hazardous waste

awareness training was held the week of March 29th. The EPA consultant went to Fort Hall to conduct Hazardous Waste training. The training consisted of Haz Mat and Operations Awareness. Jack Boller, EPA representative, held an 8-hour course on regulations. The class covered information on permitting requirements and transportation of hazardous waste. The last section of this training involved meth drug labs. This training was provided to ensure employees working in the field are prepared to handle a situation involving hazardous waste. The following day the group joined

Mr. Boller to conduct on-site assessments of the BIA compound, Tribal Construction and the Fort Hall Housing. Mr. Boller will be providing the departments with technical advice.

END